

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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P R 131915Z MAY 77
FM USMISSION OECD PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASH DC PRIORITY 6632
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L OECD PARIS 14203

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: ENRG OECD
SUBJECT: PROPOSED VENEZUELAN INTERNS IN IEA SECRETARIAT

1. IEA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR LANTZKE CALLED INFORMAL MEETING OF PERMDEL ENERGY ADVISERS MAY 10 TO INFORM THEM OF REQUEST BY CULTURAL ATTACHE AT VENEZUELAN EMBASSY IN PARIS THAT IEA ENGAGE AS UNPAID INTERNS TWO VENEZUELAN GRADUATE STUDENTS AT UNIVERSITY OF PARIS. PROPOSAL WAS THAT THE TWO VENEZUELAN, BOTH SPECIALIZING IN ENERGY ECONOMICS, WOULD BE IN SECRETARIAT FOR 3-4 MONTH PERIOD, BEGINNING THE END OF MAY.

2. LANTZKE ADVOCATES ACCEPTANCE OF HIS PROPOSAL AS DEMONSTRATION OF IEA OPENNES AND MODEST STEP TOWARD BRIDGE-BUILDING WITH OPEC. HE NOTED THAT A VENEZUELAN INTERN SPENT SOME TIME IN SECRETARIAT LAST YEAR (AT PEREZ-GUERRERO'S DIRECT REQUEST). LANTZKE SAID THIS POSED NO SECURITY PROBLEMS AND PROBABLY HAD USEFUL EFFECT IN DEMONSTRATING NON-CONFRONTATIONAL NATURE OF IEA. IN VIEW OF THIS PRECEDENT, AND GIVEN THE SEMI-OFFICIAL NATURE OF THE REQUEST THIS TIME. LANTZKE BELIEVES REFUSAL TO ACCEPT THE TWO INTERNS THIS YEAR WOULD HAVE DAMAGING EFFECT ON IEA IMAGE. LANTZKE INDICATED THAT PROGRAM FOR INTERNS WOULD BE CAREFULLY DESIGNED TO KEEP THEM ISOLATED FROM SENSITIVE DISCUSSIONS AND DOCUMENTS RELATING TO PRO
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DUCER/CONSUMER DIALOGUE AND OIL MARKET DATA. THEY WOULD SPEND BULK OF THEIR TIME IN POLICY ANALYSIS BRANCH OF LONG-TERM COOPERATION DIVISION. THE INTERNS WOULD NOT ATTEND GOVERNING BOARD OR OTHER POLITICALLY SENSITIVE MEETINGS.

3. MOST DELETS PRESENT AT MEETING INDICATED THAT THEY HAD

NO OBJECTONS TO THIS PROPOSAL. US REP, ALONG WITH SOME OTHERS, INDICATED THAT HE WOULD NEED GUIDANCE BEFORE RESPONDING. BECAUSE OF EARLY DATE ON WHICH VENEZUELANS WOULD LIKE TO BEGIN INTERNSHIP, IT WAS AGREED THAT DELEGATIONS WOULD RESPOND WITHIN ONE WEEK IF THEY HAD ANY OBJECTONS TO THIS PROPOSAL. IN THE ABSENCE OF OBJECTIONS, LANTZKE WOULD MOVE AHEAD WITH THOSE ARRANGEMENTS.

4. WE HAVE DISCUSSED OVERALL OECD IMPLICATIONS OF THIS PROPOSAL WITH WOOLTON. HE VOICED NO IMMEDIATE OBJECTIONS TO TAKING ON THE TWO VENEZUELANS BUT WANTED TO GIVE FURTHER THOUGHT TO WHETHER THERE IS A NEED FOR AN OVERALL OECD POLICY ON INTERNS FROM NON-OECD COUNTRIES.

5. MISSION RECOMMENDATION. MISSION AGREES THAT VENEZUELAN INTERNSHIPS WOULD BE USEFUL GESTURE, IF CAREFULLY CONTROLLED AS LANTZKE INDICATED. WE RECOMMEND THAT WE INDICATE OUR ACCEPTANCE OF THE PROPOSAL ON THOSE CONDITIONS.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE BY C. O. B. MAY 16.

KATZ

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